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**Examining Board of Physical Therapists and Athletic Trainers**

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES:	<b>EXAMINING BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AND ATHLETIC TRAINERS DRY NEEDLING COMMITTEE</b>
MEETING DATE AND TIME:	<b>Tuesday, September 24, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.</b>
PLACE:	STAR Campus at UD 540 S. College Avenue, Newark, DE 19713, <b>Conference Room 113</b>
MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:	November 18, 2014

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jeffrey Schneider, Athletic Trainer, Co-Chairperson  
Laura Schmitt, Physical Therapist, Co-Chairperson  
Lorna Lee, Acupuncturist  
Joseph Straight, M.D, Physician – entered at 4:50  
JJ Thomas, Physical Therapist  
Samuel Sullivan, Physical Therapist

**DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT**

David Mangler, Director of Professional Regulation  
Eileen Kelly, Deputy Attorney General  
Sandra Wagner, Administrative Specialist III

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Julie Knowles, Physical Therapist and Athletic Trainer

**ALSO PRESENT**

Lee DeLorme, Acupuncturist Student  
May Bai

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Schneider called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the September 3, 2014 meeting. Ms. Schmitt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lee, to approve the minutes with changes. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Kelly drafted rules according to the discussion of the meeting held on September 3, 2014. The Committee read through the drafted rules line by line and had a few updates and added some additional information. Ms. Kelly asked the Committee if their intention was to have the Division create forms for the Board to approve the training for dry needling, kind of like they do for continuing education courses. Discussion about courses being submitted and the courses having different hour requirements and how would the Board approve these. The

Committee felt that specific requirements of continuing education did not need to be required after a person completes their initial training.

Discussion by the Committee of a professional keeping an active license but not maintaining their skills and then decides to go back to practicing. This person would have to make the determination whether they now meet 12.1 of the rules in that they assume duties within the practice of physical therapy without adequate preparation or supervision or when competency has not been established or maintained.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Committee discussed the hours of education. Ms. Schmitt started the discussion with having the minimum amount of hours to be 54 hours. Ms. Lee would like to see a physical therapist that is performing dry needling have as much of a background in needling as an acupuncturist. Ms. Lee stated that an acupuncturist is supervised in a clinical setting before they are allowed to practice. Dry needling is a technique and most of the members of the Committee felt that a physical therapist would not need to have as many hours in as an acupuncturist. Mr. Mangler stated that the goal here today is to come up with a reasonable set of standards. After much discussion by the Committee, they came up with a minimum of 54 hours to be completed within a two year period. Ms. Lee is not convinced that 54 hours is enough hours for a physical therapist to practice dry needling safely. Ms. Lee is asking that a number of the hours be supervised. There are hours of supervised training during the training courses.

### **OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE**

There was no other business before the Committee.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

There will not be another Committee meeting unless the Board deems it necessary.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ms. Schmitt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lee, to adjourn the meeting. By unanimous vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Wagner  
Administrative Specialist III

*The notes of this meeting are not intended to be a verbatim record of the topics that were presented or discussed. They are for the use of the Board members and the public in supplementing their personal notes and recall for presentations.*